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CIA Link Denied By Denver Union

CPYRGHT

By GREG PINNEY
Denver Post Staff Writer

The general secretary of the Denver-based International Federation of Petroleum and Chemical Workers denounced a story in Friday's Denver Post that said the union has accepted Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) funds.

Loyd Haskins, in a five-page statement, said the Post story constituted "a new low in journalistic irresponsibility, cheap sensationalism and guilt by innuendo."

"IFPCW has never knowingly accepted CIA funds either directly or indirectly," the statement said.

The statement was issued through Haskins' office in the Denham Building by two aides who refused to disclose Haskins' whereabouts or say anything about him except that he was unavailable for further comment.

PHILADELPHIA FUND

The Post story said sources in Switzerland and Washington reported that the federation received \$40,000 in 1961 and 1962 from the Andrew Hamilton Fund of Philadelphia, which has been identified as an intermediary for the CIA.

The basis for the Swiss report was a financial statement issued by the federation at its 1963 world congress in Athens, Greece.

In Haskins' statement Friday, he listed five organizations that had given funds to the federation but he didn't say how he could be sure the groups weren't intermediaries for the CIA.

"It is inconceivable to us that any funds we have received from any sources could in any way be connected with CIA. Our activities in opposition to the U.S. oil companies operating around the world are obviously not in accord with U.S. foreign policy position," Haskins said.

DISPUTE MENTIONED

Haskins said his union has been engaged in a dispute with the International Chemical Workers Federation (ICWF) with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. He had no doubt that "the irresponsible allegations appearing in today's press are directly tied to our dispute with the general secretary of ICWF, Charles (Chip) Levinson," he said.

According to Haskins, the dispute centers on the ICWF's attempts to invade the IFPCW's jurisdiction over chemical workers outside Europe and petroleum workers in Europe.

The IFPCW claims to have nearly two million members in 153 unions and federations of unions in 78 countries.

Haskins listed five foundations that have given funds to the union and he said all money

received comes with no strings attached.

None of the charitable groups he named could be immediately identified with the list of more than 30 organizations that are believed to have channeled funds for the CIA.